## Claims

1.      A method of printing a print job from a device outside a firewall at an imaging device behind a firewall comprising:

sending a print job to a print job rendezvous point outside the firewall;

5      polling the print job rendezvous point using a polling device within the firewall;

downloading the print job from the print job rendezvous point;

routing the print job to an imaging device within the firewall; and

creating an image at the imaging device from the print job.

10

2.      The method of claim 1 wherein the print job rendezvous point is identified by universal resource location (URL).

3.      The method of claim 1 further comprising encrypting the print job.

15

4.      The method of claim 1 further comprising:

encrypting the print job; and

decrypting the print job before creating the image at the imaging device.

20      5.      The method of claim 1 wherein the sending the print job to the job rendezvous point and downloading the print job from the print job rendezvous point uses a secure protocol.

6.      The method of claim 5 wherein the secure protocol is a secure sockets layer

25      (SSL) protocol.

7.      The method of claim 1 wherein the sending the print job to the job rendezvous point and downloading the print job from the print job rendezvous point uses file transfer protocol (FTP).

30
Client Ref. No. 200207902-1

15

8.    The method of claim 1 wherein sending a print job to a print job rendezvous point includes the step of posting the print job to a network service addressed by a universal resource location.

5    9.    The method of claim 1 wherein an imaging device attached to a network behind a firewall polls the rendezvous point.

10.    A system for handling a print job comprising:
       a network further comprising:
10           an imaging device attached to the network; and
             another device attached to the network;
       a firewall positioned with respect to the network to reduce the risk of undesirable access to the network from locations outside the network;
       a rendezvous point positioned outside to the firewall, wherein one of the
15    imaging device or another device polls the rendezvous point to determine if a print job is located at the rendezvous point.

11.    The system of claim 10 further comprising an apparatus for transmitting the print job from the rendezvous point into the network and providing the print job to
20    the imaging apparatus on the network.

12.    The system of claim 10 wherein the imaging apparatus includes an embedded web server.

25    13.    The system of claim 10 wherein the rendezvous point is specified by a universal resource location (URL).

14.    The system of claim 11 wherein the apparatus for transmitting the print job from the rendezvous point into the network uses a secure protocol.
30

15.     The system of claim 14 wherein the secure protocol is secure hypertext transfer protocol (HTTPS).

16.     The system of claim 14 wherein the secure protocol is secure socket layer (SSL) protocol.

17.     The system of claim 10 wherein the one of the imaging device or another device polls the rendezvous point periodically.

18.     An imaging apparatus comprising:
        a processor;
        a storage device; and
        software operable on the processor to:
                poll a rendezvous point;
                detect the presence of a print job at the rendezvous point; and
                initiate transmission of the print job from the rendezvous point to the
        imaging apparatus; and
                form an image from the information in the print job.

19.     The imaging apparatus of claim 18 wherein the software is further operable on the processor to
        decrypt the image of a copy of an original document using a public key of a person sending the document; and
        print a copy of the image original document at the system of the recipient.

20.     The imaging apparatus of claim 18 wherein the storage device stores an image of the original document until an indication that the transmitted document is received.

21.     The imaging apparatus of claim 18 wherein the software is further operable on the processor to poll an other imaging apparatus to which the image of the original document is transmitted to determine if the other imaging device is enabled to receive the transmission of the original document.

5

22.     A system for handling a print job comprising:
        a first network further comprising:
                an imaging device attached to the first network; and
                another device attached to the first network;

10      a second network, the first network coupled to the second network;
        a firewall positioned between the first network and the second network, the firewall for reducing the risk of undesirable access to the first network via the second network;
        a rendezvous point positioned outside to the firewall, wherein one of the

15      imaging device or another device polls the rendezvous point to determine if a print job is located at the rendezvous point.


23.     The system of claim 22  the print job is placed at the rendezvous point using a secure protocol.

20

24.     The system of claim 22  further comprising:
        a first secure channel between the first network and the rendezvous point;
and
        a second secure channel between the second network and the rendezvous

25      point.


25.     A computer-readable medium having a program available thereon for causing a suitably programmed information-handling system to transport files between a rendezvous point and an imaging device protected by a firewall by

performing the following when the program is executed on the information-handling system:

       check the rendezvous point;

       detect the presence of a file at the rendezvous point; and

       initiate a secure transmission of the file from the rendezvous point to a device within the firewall.

26.     The computer-readable medium of claim 25 wherein the file is a print job and wherein the device is an imaging apparatus, the program further capable of

       routing the print job to the imaging apparatus; and

       forming an image from the information in the print job.

27.     A computer-readable medium having a program available thereon for causing a suitably programmed information-handling system to perform the following when the program is executed on the information-handling system:

       detects the presence of a print job; and

       posts the print job at a selected rendezvous point.

28.     The computer-readable medium of claim 27 wherein the program further causes a suitably programmed information-handling system to initiate a secure transmission of the print job to the selected rendezvous point from a device within a firewall when the program is executed on the information-handling system.

29.     A computer-readable medium having a program available thereon for causing a suitably programmed information-handling system to perform the following when the program is executed on the information-handling system:

       poll a rendezvous point; and

       detect the presence of a print job at the rendezvous point.

30.     The computer-readable medium of claim 29 wherein the program further causes a suitably programmed information-handling system to initiate a secure

transmission of the print job from the rendezvous point to a device within a firewall when the program is executed on the information-handling system.

31.    The computer-readable medium of claim 30 wherein the program further causes a suitably programmed information-handling system to:

route the print job to an imaging apparatus; and

form an image from the information in the print job, when the program is executed on the information-handling system.

32.    A system for handling a print job comprising:

means for posting the print job at a selected rendezvous point; and

means for detecting the presence of a print job at the rendevous point.

33.    The system for handling a print job of claim 32 wherein means for posting the print job at a selected rendezvous point posts the print job outside a firewall.

34.    The system for handling a print job of claim 32 further comprising means for initiating a secure transmission of the print job to the selected rendezvous point from a device within a firewall.

34.    The system for handling a print job of claim 32 further comprising means for initiating a secure transmission of the print job to retrieve the print job from the selected rendezvous point with a device within a firewall.

35.    The system for handling a print job of claim 32 further comprising means for means for polling a selected rendezvous point.